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"THE PROTON OUTRAGE:"

OR,

A Clear Exposition of the Difficulties arising out of the
South Grey Election, Dec. 1871.

THE DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE IN THE CASE.

The Action of the Mowat Government in the Matter.

THE INNOCENT VINDICATED.

THE REAL CRIMINALS EXPOSED.

—AY—

JOHN W. LEWIS.

"THE PROTON OUTRAGE."

During the two or three years succeeding the third return of Mr. LAUDER, in December 1871, for South Grey, the Tory newspapers from one end of the Province to the other, teemed with articles abusive of the Government, and the writer of this *brochure*, in reference to what was designated at the time as the "Proton Outrage." The real facts of the case were, however, little known beyond the limits of the Townships of Proton, Melancthon, in the County of Grey, in the South Riding of which the terrible election outrage was said to have occurred. The charges rung throughout the land were, that the author of this small pamphlet, J. W. LEWIS, had been employed as an agent by the existing Reform Government, or Messrs. E. BLAKE and Mr. A. McKELLAR, to lead the electors of South Grey astray, to prejudice their minds against Mr. LAUDER, the Conservative candidate, and in favor of the Reform candidate Mr. DICKEY of Toronto, by false representations concerning the valuation which had been put upon their lands, and by this means defeat Mr. LAUDER's election.

Hardly had Mr. LAUDER returned to the House after his election in December, 1871, (he had been unseated after his election in March, 1871) before the "Proton Outrage" became the subject of vindictive and exciting discussion, on the floor of the House as well as in the newspaper press. The *Daily Telegraph* of Toronto, then the organ of the Conservative Opposition, was filled with affidavits and comments on the "Proton Outrage," and Messrs. BLAKE and McKELLAR as well as the writer (Mr. LEWIS) their alleged tool and agent, were all attacked in the grossest, most vituperative and bitter language upon the floor of the House, by Messrs. M. C. CAMERON, LAUDER, and other prominent Conservatives. It was clearly seen by all those who really knew the facts of the case, that the attacks upon the Government and

the writer were made, not from honest conviction or in the public interest, but as a flimsy covering to hide the real culprits, M. C. CAMERON, the leader of the Opposition, and Mr. LAUDER, the member for South Grey, from observation, and their own outrageous conduct in the South Grey election from deserved chastisement. Their real objects were to damage the reputation of the writer in public estimation by making him appear as the dishonest tool of Messrs. BLAKE and McKELLAR and to cast unjust odium upon them by a accusing them of employing, the most unworthy and despicable means to defeat Mr. LAUDER's election. They succeeded but too well, in their first object, but they signally failed in the accomplishment of the second. Had the Government of Mr. MOWAT, however acted with fairness and discretion, they would have failed in both objects, and the result would have been to establish the fact that Messrs. CAMERON and LAUDER, had resorted to the most reprehensible means, to carry Mr. LAUDER's election. But of that more anon.

Here it may be proper to state how it was that the writer became involved in the South Grey election. During the Administration of the Hon. JOHN S. MACDONALD, great complaints were made by the settlers on the Crown Lands, especially in the townships of Proton and Melancthon, in the County of Grey, because the price fixed by the Government, some years previously, at the time of settlement, was far above the actual value of the lands, which were in many cases of very inferior quality; and the consequence was the settlers were hardly able to live upon their clearing, much less to pay the instalments to the Government as they fell due. The result of all this was that many of the settlers were in arrears to the Crown Land Office. Mr. MACDONALD's Government, passed an Act for

their relief, authorizing a revaluation of the lands in Proton and Melancthon to enable him to meet the difficulty and make just and fair allowance to the complaining settlers. At the recommendation of Mr. COLVIN, a member of the House, and a supporter of the Administration, and a number of other prominent Conservatives, the writer, in consequence of his great experience in valuing timber and lands, was appointed valuator. Having completed the work and sent in his report to the Crown Lands Office, he was paid up, and returned to his previous avocation. Not long after the defeat of JOHN SANDFIELD MACDONALD's Government a new election was ordered in South Grey. Mr. LAUDER having been unseated, as before stated, it was thought desirable by some of the leading members of the Reform party that his second return should, if possible, by honest means, be prevented. In conversation with Mr. A. OLIVER on the subject, the writer suggested that he thought LAUDER's defeat could be effected, and thought he should like to take part in the canvass. This fact was communicated by Mr. OLIVER to Mr. McKELLAR, and a number of the members of the House, and accordingly Mr. McKELLAR addressed a letter to the writer, soliciting him, as an old Reformer, to proceed to South Grey and canvass for the Government candidate, Mr. DICKEY. This invitation was accepted, and the writer on his way to South Grey, stopped at the American Hotel for the night. After retiring Mr. McKELLAR came to the hotel and waited upon him in his bedroom. The South Grey election was discussed, the writer suggesting that it was too late for him to be of any great service, as the election would come off in two or three days, it being then Christmas Eve. Mr. McKELLAR thought otherwise, and the writer then decided to go on to Grey. Mr. McKELLAR in the course of the conversation said that the policy of the Government towards the South Grey settlers, would be based on the same liberal principles that they had advocated when in opposition. With this the writer was satisfied. Mr. McKELLAR promised nothing more in reference to the settlers, and he was the only member of the Govern-

ment I saw, or with whom I had any communication on the subject of the South Grey election. It was then arranged that the writer should leave Toronto for South Grey the next morning, to assist in canvassing in the interest of Mr. DICKEY, the Reform candidate. As to what took place in South Grey during the two days he (the writer) was there canvassing, will presently be seen from the most incontrovertible evidence to be adduced. As before stated the "Proton Outrage" became the subject of exciting discussion on the floor of the House, after Mr. LAUDER's return, he having been successful in his election in South Grey.

At length on the 2nd of Feb. 1872, the following resolution, moved by Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE, passed the House by a vote of 43 to 18.

"That A. W. LAUDER, Esq., a member of the House, having stated in his place that he had in his possession certain affidavits of JOHN McDOWELL, JOHN ABBOTT, WILLIAM HUGHES, WILLIAM ROBINSON and JOHN MAY, and a letter from RICHARD LUDLOW, to said A. W. LAUDER, copies whereof were published in the *Daily Telegraph* newspaper in January, 1872, to the effect that JOHN W. LEWIS, during the late election in South Grey, told some of the electors that he was authorized by the Government and by the Hon. E. BLAKE to make certain statements, and to give certain pledges, a select Committee be appointed; to inquire into and report on the matters stated in said documents and into the circumstances connected with the alleged improper interference of LEWIS in the election, and the authority on which he so acted; such Committee to have power to send for persons, papers, and records, and to report the evidence taken by them; and such Committee consist of Messrs. RYKERT, PARDER, MACDONALD (Leeds), GALBRAITH, BOUTER and PRINCE."

The Committee thus appointed having summoned numerous witnesses on behalf of Mr. LAUDER, and against the writer and the Government, continued to hold a succession of meetings till the close of the session, examining only such witnesses as were called by Mr. LAUDER. The accused being advised by his friends in the House, Messrs. WELLS, McKELLAR and PARDER, that it would be most advisable to allow all—Messrs. LAUDER & Co's witnesses—to be called and examined prior to calling any

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witnesses in rebuttal and for the defence, adopted that course, as it was calculated to save both time and money; but unfortunately, as before observed, the whole remainder of the Committee's time for the session was occupied in hearing the witnesses for the accusation. The defendant was, it is true, called by the Committee, but he was not permitted to state the whole truth, being allowed to answer only such questions as were put to him, instead of telling the "truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth," according to the tenor of his oath. There being no time left for calling further witnesses for the defence, only one side of the case was heard, and thus there was a complete failure of justice; but had the opportunity been allowed, every accusation made and the evidence given by LAUDER's witnesses would have been proved, beyond the possibility of doubt, to be absolutely false and without even the shadow of foundation, and the unmitigated baseness of the slander both against the members of the Government and against the writer would have been clearly proven to the satisfaction of the whole country. The Committee of investigation, however, or a part of them made up some sort of an *ex parte* report, some of the members refusing to sign it, and the House very properly refused to receive it, and adjourned before anything more could be done in the matter that session.

During the next session of the House no effort was made to complete the investigation, and no opportunity was afforded the principal defendant to bring forward any evidence in his defence, and in this the Government committed the grossest blunder that any body of intelligent men could possibly have committed; knowing what could be proved for the defence, and the character of the evidence, as Mr. McKELLAR, Mr. PARDER, and Mr. WELLS, and other Liberal members of the House did know, they should have insisted that the investigation should be continued, or that a new committee should be appointed, the matter re-opened, and the whole evidence be taken; but instead of this, Mr. MOWAT, in ignorance of the facts of the case—the writer is bound to believe—made a more terrible blunder than the first.

Without further evidence than that before the Committee, without any report from that Committee, and really without knowing anything whatever of the facts of the case, he rose in his place, and after a misconceived *preamble*, moved as follows:

Resolved, That while in Grey the said Lewis falsely represented to some of the electors that he had a pledge from Mr. BLAKE that, if they supported Mr. DICKER, they would get the benefit of his revaluation; and to some of the electors that he had a pledge from the Government; and to some of the electors that if they did not support Mr. DICKER they would be treated as satisfied with the price of their land, and by such and the like representations, unduly to influence the electors, and that such conduct is deserving of the severest reprehension.

Now, the subjoined evidence will show most conclusively that Mr. MOWAT's is false in every essential particular, and that its absolute negative is literally true. Not only does the resolution do the most shameful injustice to the accused party in the case, but delivers the writhing victim, bound hand and foot, over to his bitterest enemies, without allowing him to open his lips in supplication or protest, to be the subject of their gibes and jeers, their insults and malice, through all the rest of his life. Strange to say, however, at the very moment when the vote was taken on Mr. MOWAT's abominably false motion, there were leading Reformers present, both in the Government and out of it, who knew as well as CAMERON, LAUDER & Co. did, and as well as the writer himself knew, that the resolution contained a tissue of unmitigated falsehoods, yet they *voted for it*, and never dared raise their voices against the iniquity or in defence of the truth. Alas! for the honor, gratitude and truth of politicians.

But again, Mr. MOWAT in his Woodstock speech, delivered on the 29th of March, 1872, said:

"Now when they found parties bringing forward charges against a Government for which there was no foundation at all, they knew the reason. It was that they had nothing to bring forward which had any foundation. (Cheers.) After describing the conduct of Lewis he contended there was not a tittle of evidence against any member of the

Government to support the charges made against them. Lewis's conduct in telling the electors that if they voted for Dickey the price of their lands would be reduced, but that if they voted for LAUDER it would not be reduced, was *wrong and outrageous*. It was unpardonable to speak of it without condemning it, and he was sure it would be denounced by the Reformers in the strongest manner possible. He did not believe Mr. McKELLAR would take his word.

Now is it credible! Can any one believe the fact! That the Hon. Mr. McKELLAR sat by when Mr. MOWAT made the above declarations and knowing the utter falsity of them, and the perfect innocence of Mr. Lewis, never opened his lips to set either Mr. Mowat or the public right on the question. Was not the silence of the former Commissioner of Public Works, under the circumstances, to say the least, mean, spiritless and cowardly? So far as Mr. Mowat is concerned, it must be admitted that he was ignorant of the facts of the case, but it cannot be denied, at the same time, that he showed more anxiety to clear Messrs. BLAKE and McKELLAR of all odium than he did to ascertain, by full and fair investigation, the real truth involved in the matter. The following depositions from many of the most respectable electors of the county of Grey, together with the correspondence and extracts which follow, will completely exonerate the writer, who was made the principal defendant in the case, as well as the Government, from all the charges brought against him and them by Messrs. CAMERON, LAUDER and Company, in connection with the so called "Pro'on Outrage." They will also satisfy every reasonable man, that Mr. Mowat's speech at Woodstock, and the resolution which was moved by him, and passed by the House during the Session of 1872-3, were not only unjust, but based upon a series of supposed facts, which never had an existence except in the brain of Messrs. CAMERON, LAUDER & Co.

ONTARIO: } I, Charles Palmer,
Township of Melancthon, } a resident elector
County of Grey, } in the municipality
to wit. } of Melancthon in
the County of Grey,
yeoman,

Solemnly declare, that I went to J. W.

Lewis, Esq., on the 27th day of December, A. D., 1871, about two p. m., of said day in the above named municipality in company with one Donald McAulay, of Proton.

That I accompanied the above gentleman from place of our first interview on the above day to May's Hotel where we had supper together, after which we went to a public meeting at Fete's Hotel, a few rods distant.

That said meeting was addressed by Mr. Nixon in the interest of Mr. Dickey, and by Mr. Dodds in the interest of Mr. Lauder, after which, at the request of electors Mr. Lewis made a few remarks.

That I have a clear recollection of what was uttered at said meeting, and did not hear Mr. Nixon or any person say that those who wished to get the benefit of Mr. Lewis' re-valuation would have to vote for Mr. Dickey or any words that could be truthfully construed to imply such.

That I did not hear Mr. Lewis say anything about having seen the Hon. Edward Blake on his way thither, and of having received any instructions from him at any time.

That I did hear Mr. J. W. Lewis say he had seen Mr. McKellar and that gentleman had assured him the Government would carry out the same liberal measures they advocated in opposition.

That Mr. Lewis did at said meeting advise the electors to vote for Mr. Dickey, but in conclusion informed them he would do his utmost for them irrespective of how they would vote.

That at the close of said meeting I returned with Mr. Lewis to May's hotel where I remained in his company until about one or o'clock a.m., the following morning.

That I did not see Mr. Lewis show any book purporting to contain entries of his or any re-valuation of any particular lot or lots.

Did not hear Lewis say anything about writing the word "satisfied" in connection with any lot; but did hear him say if the electors would vote against a supporter of the Government it was evidence they were satisfied with the management of their affairs by the late Government.

That the evidence given before the Proton Committee of the Ontario Legislature entirely misrepresented the sentiments and acts of Mr. Lewis when in my company.

That a gross delusion was practised on the people of the municipality by the Crown Lands Department by the issue of circulars on December 14th, 1871, having the Assistant Commissioner's name subscribed, informing the people they could value their own lands, which circulars were used in support of Mr. Lauder's election, and had a powerful influence in his favor.

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And I have made this declaration solemnly and conscientiously, believing the same to be true, and by virtue of an act passed in the thirty-seventh year of her Majesty's reign, intituled an Act for the Suppression of Voluntary and Extra Judicial Oaths.

CHARLES PALMER.

Solemnly declared before me
at Dundalk, in the County
of Grey, this 10th day of
October, A.D., 1874.

J. J. MIDDLETON, J. P.

Ontario, } I, KENNETH MCAULAY, of
Township of } the Township of Melancthon,
Melancthon, } thon, in the County of
County of Grey. } Grey, Yeoman, Township
Clerk of the above Municipality,

Solemnly swear :

I was at a meeting held at Pate's Hotel, on or about the 27th day of December, A.D. 1871, held in Mr. Dickey's interest during the Dickey-Lauder election, which was addressed by Mr. Nixon for and Dodds against, and afterwards, at the call of electors, Mr. Lewis for.

That at said meeting I did not hear Mr. Nixon say "that those who wanted to get the benefit of Mr. Lewis' re-valuation would have to vote for Dickey."

That at said meeting I did not hear Mr. Lewis say anything about having seen the Hon. Ed. Blake on his way and receiving a pledge from him to any effect, or mention the name of the Hon. Ed. Blake in any connection.

That at said meeting I did hear Mr. Lewis say he had seen Mr. McKellar at the American Hotel on his way, and that Mr. McKellar had assured him the Government would carry out the same liberal measures they had advocated when in opposition.

That I did not hear Mr. Lewis say at any time that those who voted for Mr. Lauder would not get the benefits of his re-valuation.

That I was located near to Mr. Lewis, when he was addressing the electors at the meeting referred to, and from my knowledge of the sentiments uttered, believe he has been misrepresented with evidence given before the Proton Committee of the Ontario Legislature.

That I did hear Mr. Lewis say that whatever the electors would vote for he would continue to do his best for them.

And I have made this declaration solemnly and conscientiously, believing the same to be true, and by virtue of an Act passed in the thirty-seventh year of Her Majesty's

reign, intituled "An Act for the suppression of voluntary and extra judicial oaths.

KENNETH MCAULAY,
Township Clerk.

Solemnly declared before me
at Dundalk, in the Coun-
ty of Grey, this fifth day
of October, A.D. 1874.

HENRY GRAHAM,
Justice of Peace,
in and for the County of Grey.

I, J. J. MIDDLETON, of the village of Dundalk, in the County of Grey, Merchant, and Reeve of the Municipality of Proton,

Solemnly Declare :

1. That I am an elector in the Townships of Proton and Melancthon and that I have constantly resided in the former Municipality since the early part of the year 1871.

2. That I have a distinct recollection of a political meeting held in Pate's Hotel, near Dundalk, in the month of December of the above year, addressed by Mr. Nixon in support of Mr. Dickey's candidature, Mr. Dodds against, and at the repeated request of electors, Mr. J. W. Lewis, for a few minutes, in favor of Mr. Dickey, and did, previous to the election of a Chairman, introduce Messrs. Nixon and Lewis, whom I heard express themselves to the effect that they had not seen each other before.

3. During the above meeting I sat convenient to the chairman and speakers, and did not hear either Messrs. Nixon or Lewis say "that those who wanted to get the benefit of Mr. Lewis's re-valuation, would have to vote for Mr. Dickey," or any words that could be construed to imply such. Nor did I hear Mr. Lewis say "that before leaving St. Catharines he had received instructions to meet Mr. Nixon and both hurry on together so as to act in concert."

4. I did not hear Mr. Lewis say that when passing through Toronto, on his way, he had searched for the Hon. Edward Blake and obtained a special pledge from him to the effect "that if the electors of Proton would vote against Mr. Lauder they should have the benefit of the low estimate which had been made of the balance of their lands, but not otherwise;" nor did I hear him mention the name of the Hon. Edward Blake personally in any connection, though he did speak approvingly of the personnel and policy of Mr. Blake's administration.

5. He did mention of having seen the Hon. A. McKellar at the American Hotel, and of receiving an assurance that the Government would carry out as liberal a policy toward this section, and generally, as they had advocated in Opposition, and advised th

electors to vote for Mr. Dickey, he being a supporter of the Government, they would be more likely to be influenced by the representation of their friends than their opponents, but assured them, vote for whom they would, he (Lewis) would continue to do his best for them.

6. I am well acquainted with an elector named William Nethercut, who resides in Melancthon, and, contrary to the evidence of William Hughes before the Proton Committee of the Ontario Legislature, declare that Mr. Nethercut was not influenced to vote for Mr. Dickey through any sentiment of Mr. Lewis, having been an active member of Mr. Dickey's committee several days prior to Mr. Lewis's arrival in this community during the Dickey-Lauder canvas.

7. That a circular over the signature of the Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands, in effect, telling the people they could value their own lands, and requesting them so to do was freely used in proof of the achievements of Mr. Lauder and had a powerful effect in his favor.

And I have made this declaration solemnly and conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of an Act passed in the thirty-seventh year of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act for the Suppression of Voluntary and Extra Judicial Oaths."

J. J. MIDDLETON.

Solemnly declared before me
at Dundalk, in the County
of Grey, this 24th day of
October, A.D., 1874.

HENRY GRAHAM,
Justice of the Peace,
in and for said County of Grey.

ONTARIO:
TOWNSHIP OF PROTON, COUNTY
OF GREY, to wit.

I, Donald McAulay of the
Township of
Proton, teacher
and yeoman,

Do declare that I met J. W. Lewis, Esq., at about 2 o'clock, p.m., at May's Hotel, Dundalk, on the 27th day of December, 1871, and accompanied him the remainder of that afternoon, and in the evening went with him to a meeting held at Pate's Hotel, in the Township of Proton, and during said meeting was constantly near him.

That the meeting in question was addressed by Mr. Nixon on behalf of Mr. Dickey, and by Mr. Dodds on behalf of Mr. Lauder, and afterwards, at the urgent request of electors, by Mr. Lewis, for a few minutes, in support of Mr. Dickey's candidature.

That at the above meeting neither Messrs. Nixon nor Lewis said anything respecting those supporting Mr. Dickey receiving better terms in the matter of the re-valuation of their lands than those supporting Mr. Lauder,

That Mr. Lewis did not say anything respecting having searched for the Hon. Edward Blake and having obtained a pledge from him.

That he did declare he had seen the Hon. A. McKellar at the American Hotel on his way, and that gentleman assured him the Government would carry out the same liberal measures they advanced in Opposition.

That Mr. Lewis at said meeting did advise the electors to support Mr. Dickey, he being a supporter of the Government could do more for them than Mr. Lauder, but assured them, vote for whom they would, he (Lewis) would continue to do his utmost for their getting the full benefit of the re-valuation.

That at the close of said meeting I accompanied Mr. Lewis to May's Hotel, where I remained in his company until between one and two o'clock a.m., the following morning, and did not see him produce any book purporting to contain entries of his re-valuation, or any portion thereof, and from a full recollection of what occurred, am certain nothing of the kind was said nor done, nor was anything said about writing the word "Satisfied," in connection with any particular lot.

That I met Mr. Lewis the day of the election at one of the polling places in Proton, and on arriving he was interrogated by several ratepayers respecting the acceptance of his re-valuation. When attempting to reply, Mr. Joseph McArdle, Postmaster at Ronaldsay, and Deputy-returning Officer, rushed out of the house on to the road in a very excited manner where Mr. Lewis was, and harangued the electors not to listen to Mr. Lewis, and pointing to a circular over the name of the Deputy Commissioner, assured them they could value their own lands. He farther stated that Mr. Lewis had striven to get up a mob of roughs the evening previous at Cedarville. These sentiments of the Deputy-Returning Officer caused a general row, or a row commenced at once after the expression of these sentiments.

And I have made this declaration, solemnly believing the same to be true, and by virtue of an Act passed in the thirty-seventh year of her Majesty's reign intituled "An Act for the Suppression of Voluntary and Extra Judicial Oaths."

DONALD McAULAY.

Solemnly declared before me
at the Village of Dundalk,
in the County of Grey,
this 10th day of October.
A.D., 1874.

J. J. MIDDLETON,
Reeve of Proton.

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ONTARIO,
TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON, } I, Michael Old-
COUNTY OF GREY, } field, in the
Yeoman, solemnly declare that I have fre-
quently read the evidence given before the
Proton Committee of the Ontario Legisla-
ture in reference to the statements made by
Mr. Lewis, on the evening of the 27th of De-
cember, A.D., 1871, at the meeting at Pate's
hotel.

Mr. Lewis did not at that meeting, held at
Pate's hotel, mention that he had had an
interview with Mr. Blake, or that he hunted
several hours through Toronto for him, or
that he had any pledge from Mr. Blake to
the effect that those who voted for Lauder
would not get the full benefit of Mr. Lewis's
revaluation of their lands.

The person mentioned in McDowell's evi-
dence, who intended voting for Dickey, was
at the Proton polling booth persuaded to
turn and vote for Lauder by that gentleman
in person, by showing a printed bill or
placard, purporting to be issued by the
Crown Lands Department, for each man to be
his own valuator, which Mr. Lauder used to
delude the electors. This book or placard
was only seen or heard of here the day pre-
vious to the election of Dickey and Lauder,
1875, and was speedily spread through this
part of the South Riding of Grey, which
caused a number to vote for Mr. Lauder who
were previously inclined to support Mr.
Dickey.

Mr. Nethercut had promised to vote for
Dickey, at the first meeting held here, which
was addressed by Mr. Dickey, and was can-
vassing for Mr. Dickey several days previous
to the arrival of Mr. Lewis.

I did not hear Mr. Nixon say that those
who voted for Mr. Dickey would get the bene-
fit of Lewis's revaluation.

Mr. Lewis did say he had seen Mr. Mc-
Kellar, and that gentleman had assured him
the Government would carry out the mea-
sures advocated in Opposition.

Mr. Lewis did not say, while addressing
the electors at the meeting at Pate's, that
those who voted for Lauder would not get
the full benefit of his revaluation, or any
words that could be construed to imply such.

That John McDowell, Esq., J. P., the most
forward supporter of Lauder in this com-
munity, did offer me, in Zion Church,
(Methodist), Dundalk, a few evenings pre-
vious to the Dickey-Lauder election, half the
money given him by Mr. Lauder if I would
join with him and support Lauder, as I had
at Lauder's first election.

That I was not and am not aware of Mr.
Dickey, or any other person for him, spend-
ing as much as one cent in this community
towards influencing any person to exercise
the franchise in his favor.

And I have made this declaration soli-
mnly and conscientiously, believing the
same to be true, and by virtue of an Act
passed in the thirty-second year of Her Ma-
jesty's reign, entitled "An Act for the Sup-
pression of Voluntary and Extra Judicial
Oaths."

MICHAEL OLDFIELD.

Solemnly declared before me at the village
of Dundalk, in the county of Grey, this
sixth day of October, A. D., 1874.

HENRY GRAHAM,

J. P. in and for said County of Grey.

ONTARIO, } I, Donald Bell, of the
TOWNSHIP OF PRO- } Township of Proton, in
TON, COUNTY OF } the County of Grey, far-
GREY, to wit: } mer,
Say and solemnly declare:

That I was in attendance at one of the
polling places of Proton on the 29th Decem-
ber, 1871, the polling place being at the
house of Joseph McArdle, Post Master at
Ronaldsay. Mr. Lewis was interrogated
by some of the electors, and he was in the act
of answering when Joseph McArdle, Deputy
Returning Officer, rushed out of the house on
to the road, (where Mr. Lewis was), in a very
excited manner, and harangued the electors
not to listen to Mr. Lewis, and pointing to a
circular over the name of the Deputy Com-
missioner of Crown Lands assuring them
they could value their own lands; and fur-
ther stated to the electors that Mr. Lewis
had striven to get up a mob of roughs the
evening previous at Cedarville. On these
sentiments of the Deputy Returning Officer,
a general row commenced after the expres-
sion of these sentiments.

And I have made this declaration solemnly
and conscientiously, believing the same to be
true, and by virtue of an Act passed in the
thirty-seventh year of Her Majesty's reign,
entitled, an Act for the Suppression of Volun-
tary and Extra Judicial Oaths.

D. OLD BELL.

Solemnly declared before me
at Proton, in the County of
Grey, this 16th day of Oc-
tober, A. D. 1874.

JOHN VERT,

A Commissioner in Q. B. for taking
affidavits in and for the County of
Grey.

ONTARIO, } We, John Mckensie,
TOWNSHIP OF PROTON, } merchant in the vil-
Co. OF GREY, to wit: } lage of Cedarville,
AND DONALD BELL, tanner, in the Township of
Proton in the County of Grey, both say and
solemnly declare that we met J. W. Lewis,
Esq., on the evening of the 28th day of

December, 2. D., 1871, at the Cedarville Hotel, both of us having met for conversation with the said J. W. Lewis, and that to the best of our belief there was no formal notice given either by Conservative or Reformer for a public meeting.

That the affidavit made, that Mr. Lewis said, if he had made an error he could correct the valuation, we deponents to the best of our belief did not hear J. W. Lewis repeat such words.

That the affidavit made, that Mr. Lewis said, that if their lands were reduced they would be expected to vote for Mr. Dickey," these words to the best of our knowledge and belief were not said in our hearing.

That the affidavit made that Mr. Lewis said, that if the electors would vote for Dickey the valuation would be lower," these words to the best of our knowledge and belief were not said in our hearing.

That the affidavit made that Mr. Lewis said "when he addressed the people he was the Government agent," these words to the best of our knowledge and belief were not said in our hearing, and further deponents say that at conversational meeting there was no public address made.

Deponents further say that at the conversational meeting with Mr. Lewis at Cedarville Hotel on the 28th December, 1871, Joseph McArdle, at that time Clerk of the Township of Proton, came there and used violent language, occupying the floor and would allow none to speak on any thing but what suited himself, and from the manifestation of ill feeling and violent language used by him it appeared to us he had come to raise a row if possible.

Deponents further say, that having carefully read over the affidavits made before the Select Committee appointed by the Ontario Government, that they appear to us to grossly misrepresent the language used by Mr. Lewis.

And we, deponents have made this declaration, solemnly and conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of an act passed in the thirty-seventh year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled "An Act for the Suppression of Voluntary and Extra Judicial Oaths."

JOHN MCKENZIE,
DONALD BELL.

Solemnly declared before
me at Proton in the
County of Grey, this 15th
day of October, A. D.,
1874.

JOHN VERT,

Commissioner in Queen's Bench
for taking affidavits in and for the
County of Grey.

I, Alexander McPail, of the Township of Proton, in the County of Grey, yeoman, solemnly declare:

That I am an elector in the municipality of Proton, and was so in the year 1871.

That I am the person mentioned in Joseph McArdle's evidence before the Proton Committee of the Ontario Legislature as the "Beeve" of Proton who took quite an active part in Mr. Dickey's election."

That I did not take an active part in Mr. Dickey's election, having attended only one meeting for or against him.

That I was present at the polling place near Ronaldson on the day of election and saw Mr. J. W. Lewis come there.

That contrary to Mr. Abbott's evidence, I did not go after Mr. Lewis to Cedarville and induce him to come to Ronaldsay on the above occasion or any other time.

That the disturbance that occurred was caused by Mr. McArdle coming from the polling booth on to the road (where Mr. Lewis was) with hat and coat off, calling on the electors in an excited and exciting manner to not give Mr. Lewis a hearing, as well as other offensive sentiments.

That a disturbance did commence by some of Mr. Lauder's friends endeavoring to assail Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Dickey's to protect him.

That I verily believe there would have been no disturbance on this occasion but for the influence of Joseph McArdle, the Deputy Returning Officer.

That a circular was exhibited at the polling place in Ronaldsay on the day of election over the signature of the Assistant Commissioner, informing the people they could value their own lands.

That the above circular was freely used to influence the electors in Mr. Lauder's favor with apparent effect.

And I have made this declaration solemnly and conscientiously, believing the same to be true, and by virtue of an Act passed in the thirty-seventh year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled, "An Act for the Suppression of Voluntary and Extra Judicial Oaths."

ALEX. MCPAIL.

Solemnly declared before me at Dundalk, in the County of Grey, on this 19th day of October, 1874.

HENRY GRAHAM, J. P.

I, NEIL MCKECHNIE of the Township of Proton, in the County of Grey, yeoman, solemnly declare:

That I am an elector in the Township of Proton, and was so in 1871.

That I was at the polling place at Ronaldsay, on the day of the polling during the above year, and saw Mr. J. W. Lewis arrive there.

the Township of
Grey, yeoman,

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for the Suppression
Judicial Oaths."

ALFRED McPHAIL.
here at Dundalk,
this 19th day of

ER GRAHAM, J. P.

the Township of
of Grey, yeoman,

the Township of
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ing place at Robald-
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J. W. Lewis arrive

That immediately after the arrival of Mr. Lewis the Deputy Returning Officer, Mr. Joseph McArdle, ran out of the house in an infuriated manner onto the road where Mr. Lewis was and harrangued the electors to draw Mr. Lewis away, using other very offensive language to Mr. Lewis.

That a disturbance ensued caused solely by the action of the deputy returning officer, in which several electors were abused.

That Mr. Lewis strove to quell the disturbance which would not have occurred but for the prompting of the deputy returning officer.

That I firmly believe many were induced to vote for Mr. Lauder through a circular over the signature of the Assistant Commissioner of Crown Lands, in substance, informing the electors they could value their own lands.

And I have made the above declaration solemnly and conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of an Act passed in the thirty-seventh year of her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act for the Suppression of Voluntary and Extra Judicial Oaths."

his
NEIL [X] McKECHNIE.
mark.

Solemnly declared before me
at Dundalk, in the County
of Grey, this 18th day of
Oct., A. D., 1874.

HENRY GRAHAM, J. P.

I, WILLIAM NETHERCOTT, of the Township of Melancthon, Yeoman, solemnly declare:

That I am the person mentioned in Wm. Hugh's evidence before the Proton Committee of the Ontario Legislature as having changed vote through influence brought to bear on me through Mr. J. W. Lewis.

That I was not influenced to vote for Mr. Dickey in the Dickey-Lauder contest here by any utterances of Mr. Lewis, having been one of Mr. Dickey's committee several days prior to the arrival of Mr. Lewis in this community during the above contest.

That I was present at the meeting at Pate's addressed by Mr. Lewis, for a few minutes, and firmly believe he did not utter the words attributed to him in the evidence in support of the "Proton Outrage" charges.

And I have made this declaration solemnly and conscientiously, believing the same to be true, and by virtue of an Act passed in the thirty-seventh year of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act for the Suppression of Voluntary and Extra Judicial Oaths."

WILLIAM NETHERCOTT.

Solemnly declared before me at Dundalk, in

the County of Grey, this 19th day of Oct.,
A. D., 1874.

J. J. MIDDLETON,
Reeve of Proton.

ONTARIO,
TOWNSHIP OF PROTON, COUNTY
OF GREY, TO WIT.

We, Duncan
McKenzie, Rob-
ert Gillespie,
Alex. McPherson,
yeomen,

Solemnly declare, that we are electors in the municipality of Proton, and were so in the year 1871.

That we met Mr. J. W. Lewis in Cedarville the evening previous to the polling day in the Dickey, Lauder contest, in South Grey.

That at said interview there were about eight or ten rate-payers present conversing with Mr. Lewis in a friendly way about current matters, including the election, when Joseph McArdle, then Township Clerk, entered the room where we were seated, and at once assailed Mr. Lewis and others in a violent and offensive manner, without the least provocation, accusing Mr. Lewis of having been sent by the Government, having, when valuator, placed the lots of Tories higher than Reformers; that he was unworthy of being believed, as well as other similar utterances.

That Mr. Lewis replied, declaring the Government had not sent him, that when valuating he had not discriminated between the lots of Tories and Reformers, and in proof produced a memorandum book, and read from it the valuations of McArdle's lot, his wife's, and a few others.

That repeatedly McArdle was requested to conduct himself civilly, without effect.

That a chairman was, contrary to intention, toward the close of the interview, appointed, for the sole purpose of controlling McArdle in his unsufferable insolence.

That McArdle abused the mover of the Chairman when in the act of doing so, and left the room at once and did not return.

That Mr. Lewis did not say, as mentioned in McArdle's evidence before the Proton Committee of the Ontario Legislature, that "if the electors lands were reduced, they would be expected to vote for Dickey," or any words implying such, or that "if he had made an error he could correct it."

That Mr. Lewis at said meeting conducted himself good-naturedly and civilly, and any disturbance that transpired was caused by Joseph McArdle unaided by any person.

That during said contest a circular over the signature of the Assistant Commissioners of Crown Lands, bearing date 14th December, 1871, inviting people to value their own lands, was freely used by Mr. Lauder's canvassers to influence the electors in his favor, which we believe was success

ful in deluding many to support Mr. Lauder, contrary to their previous intention.

And we have made this declaration solemnly and conscientiously, believing the same to be true, and by virtue of an Act passed in the thirty-seventh year of Her Majesty's reign, entitled "An Act for the Suppression of Voluntary Extra Judicial oaths."

Solemnly and severally declared before me at Proton in the County of Grey, this 22nd day of October, 1874.

DUNCAN MCKENZIE,
ROBT. GILLERPIE,
ALEX. MCPHERSON.

It may be observed that all the above depositions or solemn declarations, except one, were taken in the County of Grey, before a proper officer of the Crown, as provided in such cases by the statute, concerning extra judicial oaths.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,
12th Feb., 1873.

DEAR SIR: I read your letter last night, but too late to make use of it upon the debate. Had I read it in time I could have made effective use of it. I have felt all along, and I feel more strongly now, that you have been harshly dealt with. But upon the evidence given there was only one possible verdict, namely, that you did, to some extent at all events, what was charged. I took occasion in my speech—which, by the way, is practically unreported—to criticise the evidence, particularly of Abbott and Robinson, and to show that they were unworthy of belief. I said that the evidence had evidently been cooked against you, and that you had no opportunity of making your defence.

What occurs to me now is this: To move for a committee of inquiry as to Cameron's conduct in issuing that notice to the settlers in Proton, and as to Lauder's use of it during his election. I can prove that it was got up at Mr. Lauder's instance, and that five hundred copies were taken from the office by his clerk. We can make a very strong case for a committee of inquiry, and if we get it, you can doubtless have an opportunity of giving evidence upon your own behalf.

It would be advisable for you to go up to Proton and to employ the services of some solicitor, or some intelligent law student, and to get affidavits both as to the use made of the notices, and also as to what you can prove on your own account. I would myself contribute \$20 towards this, and could get other contributors. This should be done at once if at all.

I feel very strongly in the matter, Mr.

Cameron, while assuming a very high tone, has really committed the only Proton outrage that has been committed.

Yours truly,

R. M. WELLS.

J. D. LEWIS, Esq.

TORONTO, 12th February, 1873.

MY DEAR MR. LEWIS,

Your favor was received last evening at the time we were debating the Proton Outrage, and although the resolutions passed last night referred to you too strongly, and what was considered rather unjustly, yet it has created a strong feeling in your favor, and has drawn a sympathy to you which you would not have got otherwise. I have heard a great many members express themselves to-day in that way, Mr. Craig, of Glengarry, Smith, of Middlesex, Sinclair and others. Mr. Mowat brought down the resolution without consulting of us, and the difficulty was to alter it, while the Tories was moving so many amendments to it.

Curse the Proton rot.

Yours, with kind regards,

A. OLIVER.

The following was addressed by the writer, as will be seen, to the Hon Mr. PARDEE. It was handed to that gentleman by Mr. ADAM OLIVER, to whom Mr. PARDEE said, after reading it, that "There was a great deal of truth in it. In fact, there was too much truth."

ST. CATHARINES, Feb. 19, 1874.

Hon. T. Pardee:

SIR,—I see by the *Globe* of the 12th inst that the so called Proton outrage has been brought up again, and as I feel that no one is more interested in that matter than myself, I take the liberty of writing you.

I feel that I have been, and am yet, the abused party in the whole investigation, and do think I ought to be set right, for he who, endeavoring to do well, uses his utmost efforts to achieve that end, and yet fails, deserves at least respect for the good intentions.

The Government, as you are aware, appointed a committee—Lauder & Co.—who went to work; and after you left, through sickness, there was no one to advise me or bring any check upon their doings, so they continued the investigation to the end of the term; and, as you are aware, or at least I understood you to say, that I had better do nothing, but keep quiet until they—Lauder & Co.—got through, and then I should have an opportunity of showing up the other side. I did so. But that opportunity never came,

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R. M. WELLS.

February, 1873.

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A. OLIVER.
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Feb. 19, 1874.

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for they continued to bring down every per-
son that would testify, as directed by Lauder
& Co., until too late to bring in their report.

When I was called upon to testify, they
would allow me to say nothing only answer
such questions as they put to me; and they
were careful not to ask any questions that
gave me a chance to explain how I came to
see the Hon. A. McKellar, or as to the con-
versation that took place between us, or I
could have put that all right.

When I arrived in the County of Grey I
took a person with me by the name of Mc-
AULEY; went down into Melancthon, took
in another person by the name of Palmer;
they were with me that evening, and went
to the meeting held by Mr. Nixon in the
interest of Mr. Dickey; they heard all I said
there, so did Mr. Nixon; after he and Dodds
got through they (Palmer and McAuley),
returned to May's where we got tea and
stopped all night, I paying the bill the next
morning. The day before the election Mr.
McAuley and I started through Proton; went
to a school house where we met a few elect-
ors, and from there to Cedarville; and from
the time I arrived in the County of Grey
until I left, there were from one to quite a
number with me and heard all I said. Now,
I do affirm I never did say or promise
anything they (the Tories) allege my having
promised or said, and further say, if there was
any outrage committed in Grey that Lauder,
Cameron & Co., committed it. I did not
say anything to give the least offence or
kick up a row as was stated by McArdle,
who was returning officer at Ronaldsay, in
Proton. He left his polling place, came out
into the road, made a speech of some
length; told the people to drive me away,
which did create quite an excitement. He
was very much annoyed because I told the
people to elect Dickey, as I was sure the
present Government had no confidence in
Lauder, and was doubtful whether the late
Government ever had, as they bought him.
Mr. McArdle followed me the day before
down to Cedarville, and there did all he
could to get up a fight or a row of some
description. Now, I never did mention the
Hon. E. Blake's name unless in connection
with the Reform Government; nor did I
mention any other person connected with
the Government in any way, only the Hon.
A. McKellar, as saying the present Govern-
ment intended to carry out what they advo-
cated while in the Opposition, and while
in Grey he (McKellar) was sorry to see that
the people there were worse off than he
anticipated—which I thought very much in
their favor, as he had been observing enough
to see their condition.

Now, in the foregoing paragraph, I have
only set forth such facts as I can prove, and

I ask you ought I, after thirty-four years of
hard fighting—spending time and money
often when I could ill afford it—settle down
and become tame and quiet under such a
resolution as that passed by the House, or
the motion of Mr. Mowat. My friends (or
supposed friends) allowing my (or our) en-
emies to take up the whole time of a session
to injure and traduce me, and through me to
injure the party with whom I have contend-
ed so long—denying me what was granted to
others—allowing them time and some \$800
trying to correct some one, and I, after all
this to be made a tool or a scapegoat of; and
when I ask for an explanation, the answer is,
the Hon. Mr. Mowat did not understand the
circumstances. How far does that go to ex-
onerate me from that scandalous blot cast
upon me by that resolution?

Now, I am not going to turn Tory-Conserv-
ative nor Liberal-Conservative on account
of the calumnies in newspapers, and personal
bickering, and falsehoods I need not enu-
merate, brought against me by the Lauder
party, but I assure you that every word from
an enemy in this matter is a wound to me,
and a slight from a friend is like a dagger.

I do think I owe to myself and family
a duty, and if no other course is taken by my
friends, only what has been done, I shall feel
it my duty, and that before long, to clear
myself of a part, at all events, of the stigma
brought upon me by a few people of Grey,
and also by some Reform members of Parlia-
ment, by giving publicity to all the facts of
the case by letters and affidavits which I
have now in my possession, or may still re-
ceive. I send this to you regarding you as
a friend, among many others, before resolv-
ing on a course which I think of vital im-
portance to me. I have patiently waited,
stood all the abuse of a purchased fanatic
Tory press, and all that Mr. Lauder and
his minions could bring to bear, but the most
cutting of all is the resolution passed through
the House by my own friends to relieve the
Government.

I am, &c.,
J. W. LEWIS.

BOTHWELL, February 24th, 1873.

MY DEAR LEWIS: I wanted to have seen
you when I was last down, but could not on
account of having so much to do on in so
short time. I have been watching the pro-
ceedings of the so-called Proton outrage, and
from all the evidence before the committee,
I saw nothing that was trustworthy in the
evidence to criminate you. Our own party
have done more to hurt you than the Tories
could possibly do. Mowat's speech at the
election in reference to the affair was un-
called for; and he (McKellar) to sit there
and listen to that speech without uttering

one word to clear up the affair; and, then again in the Assembly, Mowat's allusion to you, making you the scape goat for the alleged sins of McKellar & Co., was, in my opinion, a very cowardly act. To tell you the truth, Lewis, I am disgusted with the leaders of our party.

Ever since I have had the honor of your acquaintance I have looked upon you as one of the most zealous workers in the Reform party, and without fee or reward.

The Tory party say that our party acted a mean and cowardly part towards you when there was no necessity for it, and I intend to tell McKellar so when I meet him. I don't think he is the right man in the right place; for a man that will desert a friend when he can't help himself, is not worthy of the place he fills.

I expect to often hear of the matter, as it will be brought up by the Tories, to taunt our party with their meanness towards you.

I remain, my Dear Lewis,

Yours truly,

JOHN MCCOTTON.

SMITHVILLE, 11th April, 1874.

MY DEAR J. W. LEWIS: I embrace this opportunity of stating to you that I feel much annoyed at the proceeding of the Committee of the Proton affair, for it is quite evident that a great injustice has been done to you, and through you a blow was aimed at the Reform party.

It will require much clearer evidence than anything I have yet seen to shake my confidence in your integrity whom I have known for a period of some thirty-five years. I must say I am not satisfied with Mr. Mowat's course in the matter, and the proceedings of the Committee appear to be all on one side. I will try and see you when I am in St. Catharines again.

I remain,

respectfully yours,

A. MORSE.

Mr. McKELLAR replied to a letter of Mr. McCALLUM's of the 20th March, 1873, under date of April 9th of the same year, as follows;

"Mr. Mowat was not familiar with the whole case when he referred to Lewis in his speech at Woodstock or he would not have made the reference he did; he is the last man to wrong or wound the feelings of any one. Lewis is an honest and zealous man."

Why did not Mr. McKELLAR rise and put Mr. Mowat right when he made that speech, for he was present and addressed the same meeting? And why did he not advise Mr. Mowat of his error when that gentleman proposed his resolution of censure in the

House? Where was his manliness then? Immediately below is the evidence of Mr. DODD, one of the supporters of Mr. LAUDER, and one of his chief orators in the South Grey election, as it was given before the Committee of the House. This gentleman accompanied the writer from May's Hotel to the meeting at Pate's, and after the meeting both the writer and Mr. DODD returned together to May's Hotel, and remained together till twelve or one o'clock at night, and Mr. DODD must therefore have heard all the writer said during the whole time they were in company.

Mr LAUDER then proceeded to call witnesses.

EDWARD K. DODD, of Toronto,—Met Mr. Lewis at Dundalk, on the town line of Proton, at the late election; witness had heard that Mr Nixon had called a meeting, and went there to hear him; heard Mr. Lewis say he had come there especially to put the land question properly before the people, he said the present Government would give the land question a consideration favourable to the electors; did not hear him say he had seen any one; understood him to mean that he had the authority of Mr. McKellar or Mr. Blake, but he did not say he had seen either of them; thought a change took place in the feeling of the people after Mr. Lewis got there.

By Mr. PARDEE—Witness was up there canvassing for Mr. Lauder.

Mr. PARDEE—You understood Mr. Lewis to say that it would be more to their interest to have the present Government than the late Government.

Witness—Yes.

Mr. LAUDER—Well, but—

Mr. PARDEE—Hold on, Mr. Lauder. We won't have this interruptions.

The CHAIRMAN—Wait till the committee get through.

By Mr. LEWIS—Witness accompanied Mr. Lewis afterwards to May's hotel; did not see any books produced.

Is not the foregoing mass of evidence which might be multiplied ten-fold, were it necessary, quite sufficient to convince every unprejudiced mind in this country that the writer (J. W. Lewis,) is entirely innocent of every charge brought against him in connection with the South Grey election? And does it not show how unwise, how unjust, and how untruthful was the speech of Mr. Mowat at Woodstock? And does it not show still further that that while the Gov.

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ernment and the Reformers in the House
 were voting for Mr. Mowat's infamous and
 grossly slanderous resolution they were
 playing into the hands of the enemies of the
 Government and of the writer, (J W. Lewis?)
 Cameron, Lauder and Rykert were thrown
 into gleeful ecstasy by the folly and stu-
 pidity of the course pursued by Mr. Mowat
 and his followers. And well they might,
 when they knew that they themselves and
 their tools in Grey were in fact the real criminal
 in the affair called the "Proton Outrage."
 Now, then as to the evidence of their guilt,
 in exercising an undue, mean and despicable
 influence over the electors in Proton. Below
 is a copy of the document issued from Mr.
 Cameron's office, as Commissioner of Crown
 Lands, by his deputy, a little before the
 South Grey election. It will be observed
 that it is dated Toronto, December 14th,
 1871, the election occurring on the 28th, and
 what inducement does it hold out to the
 electors to vote for Mr. Lauder, the Govern-
 ment candidate. It only needs to be read to
 be understood and appreciated at its true
 value. These notices, it may be observed,
 were circulated by hundreds in Proton and
 Melancthon, jas' before the election, and
 they could not fail to produce a most decided
 effect upon the result of that election in
 favor of the Government candidate, Lauder,
 who circulated them with his own hands, and
 through his trusty agents.

This is a copy of the notice :

Notice.—Settlers on the Public Lands in
 the Township of Proton, who are of opinion
 that their lands were originally purchased at
 a price above their value, and who consider
 themselves justly entitled to a reduction,
 under the provision of the Act 34, Victoria,
 chap. 20, are required to make application
 for such reduction to the Resident Agent, or
 direct to the Crown Land Department at
 Toronto. Such application must state the
 amount of reduction such settlers consider
 themselves justly entitled to, and must be
 accompanied with evidence under oath, of
 the extent and nature of the improvements,
 and of the payment of municipal taxes, and
 the time for which taxes have been paid.

Settlers who are not originally purchasers
 from the Crown are required to shew when,
 and by what means they obtained possession
 of the land.

THOS. H. JOHNSTON,
 Assistant Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF CROWN LANDS,
 Toronto, Dec. 14th, 1871.

This document was most certainly an
 electioneering fraud of the vilest character.
 It intimates that the settlers are to have
 such valuation placed upon their lands, and
 such reductions made, as they themselves
 suggest to Mr. M. C. CAMERON, at that
 time Commissioner of Crown Lands; and
 all this too regardless of the estimated values
 and reductions, made by the Government's
 appointed agent, who had completed and
 sent to the Crown Lands Office his report
 about a month previous. His estimates of
 value, and suggested reductions in price,
 were made out honestly, carefully and im-
 partially, according to the best of his know-
 ledge and ability, and without the remotest
 reference to any coming elections. This un-
 warrantable document could have been
 issued for no other purpose than to secure
 support and votes for Mr. LAUDER, and as it
 was issued from Mr. CAMERON's office, and
 circulated by Mr. LAUDER, they were, with
 their local agents, beyond all question the
 parties who perpetrated, and were guilty
 of the "Proton Outrage," and not
 the Messrs. BLAKE and McKELLAR, or the
 writer (LEWIS) who were all innocent of the
 charges hurled against them by CAMERON and
 LAUDER, to hide their own mean and disre-
 putable mode of influencing the election, as
 proved in the above document, which is their
 own witness against them.

The affidavits or declarations herein con-
 tained, were procured, at the instance, and
 by the advice of Mr. WELLS, the present
 Speaker of the House, as may be seen by
 that gentleman's letter, marked No. 1, in the
 foregoing correspondence. After they had
 been procured the writer waited both upon
 Mr. WELLS and Mr. MOWAT, when the former
 said that it was too late then to take any
 action in the matter before the House, but
 that the writer had his *sympathy*, while the
 latter remarked that he was exceedingly
 sorry that the course pursued in the House
 had been adopted, and that he really did not
 know what he could possibly do for them in
 the matter, to correct the error committed.

In conclusion, the writer may state that
 the whole case having been abandoned by
 the Government and their political friends,

he had no alternative left, to vindicate his honor and integrity against the foul slanders cast upon him by his political enemies and by Mr. Mowat's false resolution and speeches, but to present the whole matter before the country as he has done in these pages, and thus leave the public at large to form their own opinions of the vile treatment he has received, not so much at the hands of his political enemies as from those of his political friends. The latter have been ready enough to express their sympathies and their regrets, but of what value are they so long as they make no effort to remove the blackening stigma they have stamped upon his character by the passage of that infamous resolution placed upon the journals of the House in 1872. Mr. Mowat and his colleagues have doubtless the power yet to cancel that resolution if they have courage, manliness, and a sense of justice equal to the task; but as they have not shown that they possess these sterling qualities of manhood, the writer, after waiting and suffering for years, must be content to rest the vindication of his name and honor upon the facts he now

places before the community, so that all may plainly see that he has been made, most unjustly, the sacrificial victim of the Reform Government of Ontario. Their refusal or neglect to do him common and even-handed justice in this matter, will, so long as they hold the reins of power, constitute, in the opinion of honest men, the foulest blot on their otherwise fair escutcheon. But the wrongs the writer has endured will in no wise change his political principles, or his attachment to the Reform Party. He never yet, during the thirty-six years he has enjoyed the right of suffrage, cast a single vote for any Tory candidate for any public office whatever; he cannot therefore be accused of infidelity to his party, or of political inconsistency. The writer, however, cannot boast of being the only martyr to the ingratitude of his political friends, for it is but too common an occurrence, when men of narrow and selfish aspirations have attained office and its emoluments, to treat with the coldest neglect and the basest ingratitude, the very men who have worked longest and most zealously to secure their elevation.

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